

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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62

ACTION SS-25

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P R 061837Z AUG 76

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1768

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 6396

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR SREF IS UR

SUBJECT: SOVIET JEWS WHO CHANGE DIRECTIONS IN VIENNA

REF: (A) STATE 188625; (B) STATE 190357; (C) ROME 12467;
(D) TEL AVIV 5302; (E) GENEVA 3514 (NOTAL)

1. APPRECIATING FULLY THE POLITICAL, MORAL AND SOCIAL CONSIDERATIONS DISCUSSED IN REFS A THROUGH D, WE ARE ALSO CONCERNED OVER ECONOMIC IMPACT OF VIENNA BREAK-OFFS ON USRP'S EX-USSR PROGRAM.

2. ACCORDING TO OUR STATISTICS, PERCENTAGE OF SOVIET JEWS WHO HAVE CONTINUED TO ISRAEL FROM VIENNA HAS DECLINED FROM 97.5 PERCENT IN 1972, TO 90 PERCENT IN 1973, 69 PERCENT IN 1974, 50 PERCENT IN 1975 AND AND 43 PERCENT IN FIRST HALF OF 1976. VIENNA BREAK OFFS TO ROME HAVE SOARED CORRESPONDINGLY, WHILE TCP'S AND EX-ISRAEL CASES HAVE FURTHER ADDED TO CASELOAD THERE. ACCORDING TO MISSION STATISTICS THERE HAS CONSEQUENTLY BEEN A SIGNIFICANT INCREASE IN THE NUMBERS OF REFUGEES AWAITING CONDITIONAL ENTRY PROCESSING IN ROME. DURING THE FIRST HALF OF 1976 ALONE, THE RISE WAS AS FOLLOWS:

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IRC ICMC TF UHS WCC TOTAL

JAN.	206	103	127	2601	188	3225
FEB.	202	100	116	2692	196	3306
MARCH	198	100	112	2921	240	3571
APRIL	200	95	95	3087	261	3738
MAY	203	93	96	3505	393	4290
JUNE	205	93	96	3201	451	4046
DIFFER-						
ENCE	-1	-10	-31	PLUS600	PLUS263	PLUS 821

3. THE MAINTENANCE OF THE AVOVE CASELOAD IS FUNDED BY THE EX-USSR PORTION OF USRP. AT AN ESTIMATED AVERAGE COST OF \$78.50 PER PERSON, THE TOTAL MONTHLY COST OF MAINTAINING EVEN THE PRESENT NUMBER OF REFUGEES IN ROME EXCEEDS \$300.000. SHOULD THE BREAK OFF RATE IN VIENNA AND TCP CASES CONTINUE AT THE PRESENT RATE OR INCREASE, THESE EXPENSES WILL OF COURSE MOUNT FURTHER

4. OF ADDED CONCERN TO MISSION ARE THOSE REFUGEES FOUND INELIGIBLE FOR RESETTLEMENT IN COUNTRY OF THRIR CHOICE. IF 400 SUCH REFUGEES (REF C) ARE PART OF PRESENT EX-USSR CASELOAD, IT CAN BE ANTICIPATED THAT, UNLESS DECISION IS TAKEN TO DISCONTINUE ASSISTANCE, THEY, AND OTHERS IN SIMILAR SITUATION COULD REMAIN DEPENDENT UPON USRP ASSISTANCE FOR INDEFINITE PERIOD.

5. IN VIEW OF FOREGOING, MISSION URGES THAT CONSIDERATION BE GIVEN TO MEANS BY WHICH LARGE AND INCREASING CASELOAD IN ROME COULD BE REDUCED, POSSIBLY ALONG LINES SUGGESTED IN PARA 4, REF E.

CATTO

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Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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